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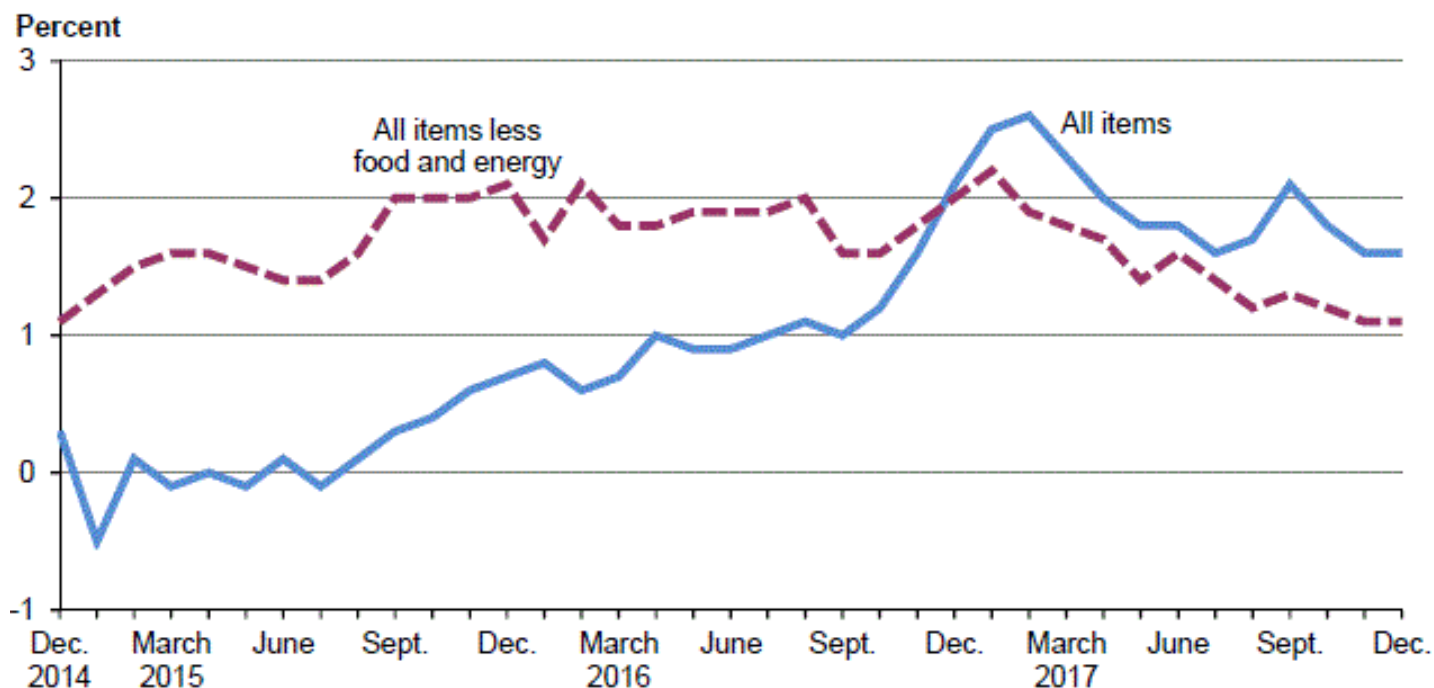
Consumer Price Index, New York-Northern New Jersey – December 2017

Area prices up 0.1 percent over the month and 1.6 percent over the year

Prices in the New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), ticked up 0.1 percent in December after decreasing 0.1 percent in November, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Chief Regional Economist Martin Kohli attributed the index movement to an increase in household energy prices. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Over the year, the CPI-U rose 1.6 percent. The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.1 percent. (See [table A](#) and [chart 1](#).) Price increases for shelter drove the 12-month change in both indexes. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, December 2014–December 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

The food index edged up 0.2 percent after remaining unchanged in November. Prices for food away from home rose 0.3 percent for the third consecutive month. Food-at-home prices inched up 0.1 percent. Chicken, tomatoes, and salad dressing were among the groceries that had higher prices in December.

For the year ended in December 2017, the food index increased 2.3 percent. Prices rose 2.5 percent for food away from home, while prices for food at home increased 2.1 percent.

Energy

The energy index rose 1.4 percent after rising 0.7 percent in November. Household energy price increases drove the December advance, with higher prices reported for electricity (3.9 percent), natural gas (2.4 percent), and fuel oil. Gasoline prices, on the other hand, were down 1.3 percent.

From December 2016 to December 2017, energy prices increased 6.6 percent, with gasoline prices rising 8.9 percent. Household energy prices advanced 5.1 percent, led by a 12.0-percent rise in natural gas prices. By contrast, electricity prices ticked up 0.1 percent.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy was flat, after inching up 0.1 percent in the two previous months. Shelter prices rose 0.1 percent. Within shelter, residential rent increased 0.1 percent. Recreation prices rose 0.8 percent and price increases were reported for new and used motor vehicles. Seasonal declines in apparel prices (-4.1 percent) largely offset these increases. Other items showing declines included other goods and services (-0.4 percent) and education and communication (-0.2 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy rose 1.1 percent. Shelter prices increased 1.9 percent, with residential rent up 2.1 percent. Medical care prices increased 2.2 percent, recreation prices increased 2.0 percent, and other goods and services rose 1.5 percent. Apparel and education and communication prices, on the other hand, were each down 1.5 percent.

Table A. New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)

Month	2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January.....	0.4	2.8	0.5	2.2	0.9	1.9	0.1	-0.5	0.2	0.8	0.6	2.5
February.....	0.4	2.6	0.6	2.4	-0.2	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.3	2.6
March.....	0.6	2.6	0.1	1.9	0.4	1.3	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.7	0.0	2.3
April.....	0.2	2.4	-0.2	1.4	0.0	1.6	0.1	0.0	0.4	1.0	0.1	2.0
May.....	0.1	1.8	0.1	1.4	0.5	1.9	0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.9	0.1	1.8
June.....	-0.1	1.6	0.3	1.8	0.0	1.7	0.2	0.1	0.2 ^(r)	0.9 ^(r)	0.2	1.8
July.....	-0.2	1.1	0.2	2.1	0.1	1.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	1.0	-0.2	1.6
August.....	0.6	1.4	0.1	1.7	-0.2	1.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	1.1	0.2	1.7
September.....	0.4	1.6	0.3	1.6	0.0	1.0	0.2	0.3	0.2	1.0	0.5	2.1
October.....	-0.1	1.7	-0.6	1.1	-0.2	1.3	-0.1	0.4	0.1	1.2	-0.2	1.8
November.....	0.0	2.0	0.1	1.2	-0.4	0.8	-0.2	0.6	0.2	1.6	-0.1	1.6
December.....	-0.3	2.1	0.0	1.5	-0.5	0.3	-0.4	0.7	0.1	2.1	0.1	1.6

Footnotes:
(R) = revised.

CPI-W

In December, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was 264.436, up 0.1 percent over the month. The CPI-W rose 1.8 percent over the year.

The January 2018 Consumer Price Index for New York-Newark-Jersey City is scheduled to be released Wednesday, February 14, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. (ET).

Consumer Price Index Geographic Revision for 2018

In January 2018, BLS will introduce a new geographic area sample for the Consumer Price Index (CPI). As part of the new sample, the index for this area will be renamed. The first indexes using the new structure will be published in February 2018. Additional information on the geographic revision is available at: <https://www.bls.gov/cpi/additional-resources/geographic-revision-2018.htm>.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 89 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers approximately 28 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately 24,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/pdf/homch17.pdf.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, N.Y.-N.J.-Conn.-Pa. consolidated area covered in this release is comprised of Bronx, Dutchess, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester Counties in New York State; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer,

Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren Counties in New Jersey; Fairfield County and parts of Litchfield, Middlesex, and New Haven Counties in Connecticut; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)(not seasonally adjusted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Oct. 2017	Nov. 2017	Dec. 2017	Dec. 2016	Oct. 2017	Nov. 2017
Expenditure category						
All items	269.575	269.381	269.564	1.6	0.0	0.1
All items (1967=100)	779.305	778.742	779.273			
Food and beverages	262.271	262.153	262.465	2.1	0.1	0.1
Food	262.309	262.244	262.646	2.3	0.1	0.2
Food at home	253.405	252.759	252.929	2.1	-0.2	0.1
Food away from home.....	281.995	282.774	283.526	2.5	0.5	0.3
Alcoholic beverages	257.289	256.463	255.544	0.3	-0.7	-0.4
Housing	292.432	292.699	293.988	1.9	0.5	0.4
Shelter	371.091	371.403	372.257	1.9	0.3	0.2
Rent of primary residence(1).....	384.111	384.611	385.109	2.1	0.3	0.1
Owners' equivalent rent of residences(1)(2) ..	377.790	377.951	378.813	1.9	0.3	0.2
Owners' equivalent rent of primary residence(1)(2).....	377.324	377.483	378.344	1.9	0.3	0.2
Fuels and utilities.....	184.521	185.970	191.222	4.5	3.6	2.8
Household energy	175.806	177.428	183.305	5.1	4.3	3.3
Energy services(1)	168.407	169.083	174.742	3.9	3.8	3.3
Electricity(1).....	174.350	170.429	177.011	0.1	1.5	3.9
Utility (piped) gas service(1).....	148.749	157.393	161.134	12.0	8.3	2.4
Household furnishings and operations	108.872	108.093	108.042	-1.8	-0.8	0.0
Apparel	130.854	123.214	118.135	-1.5	-9.7	-4.1
Transportation	215.299	216.099	215.371	2.2	0.0	-0.3
Private transportation	201.485	202.892	202.702	2.8	0.6	-0.1
Motor fuel	209.807	210.830	208.116	9.0	-0.8	-1.3
Gasoline (all types).....	208.899	209.900	207.155	8.9	-0.8	-1.3
Gasoline, unleaded regular(3).....	207.635	208.897	205.916	9.2	-0.8	-1.4
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(3)(4).....	218.182	217.643	216.524	8.0	-0.8	-0.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium(3).....	219.685	219.007	217.780	7.4	-0.9	-0.6
Medical care	479.874	480.607	481.152	2.2	0.3	0.1
Recreation(5).....	121.660	122.802	123.825	2.0	1.8	0.8
Education and communication(5).....	142.227	142.328	142.090	-1.5	-0.1	-0.2
Other goods and services	424.127	422.113	420.409	1.5	-0.9	-0.4
Commodity and service group						
All items	269.575	269.381	269.564	1.6	0.0	0.1
Commodities	188.766	187.520	186.820	1.2	-1.0	-0.4
Commodities less food and beverages	143.956	142.260	141.132	0.3	-2.0	-0.8
Nondurables less food and beverages.....	184.743	181.592	179.229	1.2	-3.0	-1.3
Durables	92.819	92.686	92.860	-1.2	0.0	0.2
Services.....	337.945	338.544	339.404	1.7	0.4	0.3
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care.....	260.441	260.208	260.376	1.5	0.0	0.1

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods, New York-Northern N.J.-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)(not seasonally adjusted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Oct. 2017	Nov. 2017	Dec. 2017	Dec. 2016	Oct. 2017	Nov. 2017
All items less shelter.....	229.361	228.960	228.871	1.3	-0.2	0.0
Commodities less food	148.244	146.566	145.438	0.3	-1.9	-0.8
Nondurables	225.138	223.392	222.275	1.7	-1.3	-0.5
Nondurables less food.....	189.177	186.159	183.878	1.1	-2.8	-1.2
Services less rent of shelter(2).....	312.833	313.733	314.641	1.5	0.6	0.3
Services less medical care services.....	326.174	326.790	327.657	1.5	0.5	0.3
Energy	191.166	192.583	195.283	6.6	2.2	1.4
All items less energy	279.072	278.724	278.674	1.2	-0.1	0.0
All items less food and energy	283.881	283.483	283.356	1.1	-0.2	0.0

Footnotes

(1) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(2) Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

(3) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(4) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

(5) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

Note: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.

The New York-Northern New Jersey-Long Island, NY-NJ-CT-PA consolidated area comprises the five boroughs of New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess, and Orange Counties in New York State; Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Monmouth, Middlesex, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, and Warren Counties in New Jersey; Fairfield County and parts of Litchfield, New Haven, and Middlesex Counties in Connecticut; and Pike County in Pennsylvania.